REMARKS:

Claims 1-12 are in the case.

The Examiner has required applicant to elect from among seven species for further prosecution of this application.

It is noted that the species are unified in that they all include what is believed to be a novel and unobvious combination of a new release mechanism in combination with a generalized expansion mechanism.

For completeness applicant elects the prosecution of claims directed to the species V, illustrated in Figs. 14-15. This is believed to entitle applicant at least to the examination of claims 1, 2, 11 and 12, claims 1, 2 and 12 being generic.

All the claims are retained, however, pending the possible allowance of a claim that is generic to more than one of the various species but specific to the release mechanism which, in the claimed combination, is believed patentable and unobvious over the prior art.

Favorable action is respectfully requested.

Dated: October 28, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

PCM:gmc/gb

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